

CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE (2006 IBC) PUBLIC PROPOSAL FORM

PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBMITTING PUBLIC PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS MUST COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

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- Buildings and structures of Type I and II construction for rack storage facilities which do not have access by the public shall not be limited in height provided that such buildings conform to the requirements of Section 507.1 and NFPA 231C.
- 2. The automatic sprinkler system shall not be required in areas occupied for indoor participant sports, such as tennis, skating, swimming and equestrian activities, in occupancies in Group A4, provided that:
 - 2.1. Exit doors directly to the outside are provided for occupants of the participant sports areas, and
 - 2.2. The building is equipped with a fire alarm system with manual fire alarm boxes installed in accordance with Section 907.
- 3. Group A-1 and A-2 occupancies of other than Type V construction shall be permitted provided:
 - 3.1 All assembly occupancies are separated from other spaces as required for separated occupancies in Section 508.3.2, with no reduction allowed in the fire-resistance rating of the separation based upon the installation of an automatic sprinkler system,
 - 3.2 Each Group A occupancy shall not exceed the maximum allowable area permitted in Section 503.1, and

PROPOSAL Continued (Attach additional sheets as necessary)
SUPPORTING INFORMATION (State purpose and reason, and provide substantiation to support proposed change): This proposed amendment simply deletes the Group A-4 assembly occupancy from those occupancy groups allowed to qualify as an unlimited area one story building in accordance with this section. This is entirely consistent with Section 505.2 of the 1997 UBC which does not allow any Group A occupancy to be of unlimited area based on these provisions of complete automatic sprinkler system protection and open space of at least 60 ft. in width around the entire building perimeter.
Exception #2 has also been deleted since it is only applicable to the Group A-4 occupancy which is being deleted.
It should be noted that Code Change G100-00 was approved to restrict Group A-4 occupancies allowed to be of unlimited area per Section 507.2 to types of construction other than Type V (wood frame) construction. This was based on the fact that none of the three model building codes allowed Group A-4 occupancies to be of unlimited area in wood frame construction.
The issue here is also one of life safety since the present IBC will allow an unprotected construction type of unlimited area for an assembly occupancy. Presently, the IBC will allow a Type IIIB (UBC Type III-N) construction one-story Group A-4 building to have a maximum area of 52,250 sq. ft. based on complete automatic sprinkler system protection and a 60 ft. wide open space provided around the entire building. These are the same conditions that would allow an unlimited area building in accordance with this section. By comparison, Type IIIA (UBC Type III-One hour) construction will allow a maximum area of 77,000 sq. ft and Type IB (UBC Type II-F.R.) construction will allow the building to be of unlimited area. Thus, it would be more reasonable to let the general code provisions for allowable height and area regulate the Group A-4 buildings rather than permitting them to be of unprotected construction of unlimited area per Section 507.2 and subjecting the occupants to having to evacuate a building under fire conditions in which there are no fire resistance ratings provided for the structural elements.
SUPPORTING INFORMATION Continued (Attach additional sheets as necessary)
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3.3 All required exits shall discharge directly to the exterior.